



### IOWA E911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING

**Meeting.** The Iowa E911 Communications Council met on September 10 at the West Des Moines City Hall. E911 Surcharge Fund Administrator Blake DeRouchey reported on several items:

- October 19 will be a training day held at Prairie Meadows.
- A public hearing will be held October 20 for feedback on new rules due to legislative changes.
- Three additional counties (Floyd, Mitchell, and Winneshiek) can now receive text to 911 transmissions, bringing the total counties with this capability to nine in the state. The process has been streamlined to inform wireless carriers when counties are ready to receive texts.
- More than 50.0% of the public service answering points (PSAPs) have migrated to Session Initiation Protocol. The self-imposed deadline to accomplish this statewide is the end of the first quarter of 2016.
- Tentative plans are being made to complete a statewide imagery project with periodic flights (possibly every 3-4 years) over the entire state. Cost-saving measures by sharing the results statewide might be possible. This imagery project has been included in future fund balance projections.
- Samantha Brear begin employment on September 28 as DeRouchey's assistant. She is currently with Polk County Emergency Management.
- Progress on the cost-effectiveness study that is to be submitted to the General Assembly in January of 2016 is stalled until the Department of Administrative Services gives approval to sign the contract for a vendor to compile the report.

**PSAP Applications.** The Council approved a total of 34 grants for \$1.8 million to the PSAPs. The application for the Department of Public Safety was voted on separately from local PSAPs and approved.

**Iowa Interoperability Governance Board.** Coordinator Craig Allen reported:

- Every county in Iowa has been contacted in outreach efforts. Region 1 held the first Interoperability Workshop in Polk County. Rob Dehnert of WestCom has been named the RIC (regional interoperability committee) chair for Region 1 and vice-chair is Jason Huffman from Carroll County. Upcoming workshops will be September 17 in Waterloo, September 30 in Ottumwa, October 13 in Creston, October 29 in Sioux City, and November 10 in Mason City. Board members are encouraged to attend at least one workshop.
- The FirstNet process is moving slowly. Public/private summit meetings have been held and were very well received. Two more may possibly be planned for this winter and next spring. At the national level, FirstNet is still considering which large carrier to partner with. The carrier decision will affect how the roll out proceeds. There have been vendors approaching states and suggesting they have technologies that would be better than FirstNet. However, those claims need to be carefully examined.
- A SCIP (Secure Communication Interoperable Protocol) review will be held on October 14 after the regular board meeting to review goals for the strategic plan.
- Policy implementation continues to mature and the new area to consider is encryption and the ability of radios to work with other states.

**Other Items.** Issues regarding Mediacom data extraction from county E911 databases were discussed. DeRouchey stated that he is working with Mediacom on a solution. Synchronization was also addressed, and the deadline for that to occur has been reset to December 1. A CenturyLink representative was present and provided contact information for questions and problems.

**Next Meeting.** The next Council meeting will be October 14 at the West Des Moines City Hall.

**STAFF CONTACT:** Alice Fulk Wisner (515-281-6764) [alice.wisner@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:alice.wisner@legis.iowa.gov)